

Appl. No. 10/654,990  
Amendment dated: May 10, 2006  
Reply to OA of: January 10, 2006

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please insert the following new paragraphs after the third full paragraph on page 5.

As shown in Figure 14, which is a top view of a third embodiment of the presently claimed invention, the lateral connecting portion 44' projects outwardly from the side of the restoration tooth 40'. As can also be seen from Figure 14, the lateral connection portion 44' extends from the front of the restoration tooth to the back of the restoration tooth. That is to say, the lateral connection portion 44' protrudes from the restoration tooth 40' over the entire depth of the restoration tooth.

As shown in Figure 15, which is a cross-sectional view taken along line A-A of Figure 14, the lateral connection portion 44' is horizontally arranged such that the lateral connection portion 44' runs from the front side of the abutment tooth 10 to the back side of the abutment tooth 10'.